GAI-CIA:33,34-5

9/12/69 HW

Helms mem to Rowley, 2/18, is legitimate and raises an inherently valid point and a persisting suspicion: was this the real Lee Harvey Oswald; did he really, seriously attempt suicide in Moscow? I have written Gary earlier about this and referred him to the Oswald Autopsy. No wrist scars are indicated on the body charts. Under findings it has scars on left wrist and left arm. On the second page this is indicated as 1 3/4" slightly raised and white scar. However, there seems to be no interest in the Marine-Corps wound, where he shot himself by accident, and in hastily scanning the autopsy now I see no such wound indicated. If the CIA was interested in identifying the murdered man as the real Oswald, by 2/18 it knew of his Marine-Corps history. So, this was not their interest, and I am unaware of any other such interest.

The care suggested in the second paragraph, was there indication of other sources of wounds, is warranted because a wrist wound need not have been selfinflicted. The corps showed several wounds and scars.

In his memo of the same date to the FBI, much longer, he quotes Marina's opinion Oswald wasn't a suicide type. I'd reached the same conclusions, with a basis no more scientific than hers.

But the CIA, from the final paragraph, was unaware of the autopsy findings of a scar and seemingly assumes there was no autopsy (or lacked confidence in it), for it doesn't suggest checking it!

The mexture of bona fides and childsihness here is interesting.

I wonder whether this line taken by the CIA was its own thought or inspired by the Commission? I recall no other pursuit, even this inadequately. Does anyone else know of any interest like this?